

# FLIGHT JACKET

Vol. 8, No. 40

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

October 6, 2006

## USMC NEWS

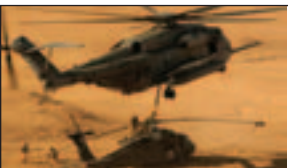
### Stallions carry the load

Heavy lift operations in Iraq focus on mission accomplishment

**CPL. JAMES B. HOKE**  
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing

AL ASAD, Iraq — The CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter is a very versatile aircraft, as it can lift up to 16 tons and fly indefinitely with its aerial refueling probe.

GO TO IRAQ, PAGE 3



CPL. JAMES B. HOKE

Marines with the Helicopter Support Team prepare to hook the immobilized UH-60 Blackhawk to a CH-53E Super Stallion.

## Video Game review

### Test Drive screams online

**CHRIS CAMPBELL**  
Scripps Howard News Service

'Test Drive Unlimited' takes a more leisurely approach to racing; after all, you reside on the tropical Hawaiian island of Oahu and spend your time (either offline or online)

GO TO GAMERS, PAGE 9

## Miramar Air Show

# THOUSANDS EXPECTED FOR ANNUAL EVENT



Photo courtesy of Petty Officer 2nd Class Ryan Courtade

### Specialized motorcycle safety course offered

#### Air Station Bulletin

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's Safety Office offers a bi-monthly, three-day motorcycle safety class for active-duty military. The free course is mandatory for any active-duty Miramar Marine wanting to ride a motorcycle on base.

The 2006 Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Air Show is back again. This year's show includes performances by the Blue Angels, the Patriots Team, Shockley Jet Truck and more. Come and see the Air Show at the flight line Oct. 13-15.

For a map of the Air Show see pages 6 and 7.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS | Page 10



### SALVAGE TEAM

Specialized automotive team keeps vehicles rolling in the sand and heat of Iraq.  
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### REACH US



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# Play it smart when it comes to your health

*Don't let medical privacy laws lock you out.*



**Maj. Gen. Samuel T. Helland**  
Commanding General  
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing



**Col. Christopher E. O'Connor**  
Commanding Officer  
MCAS Miramar

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Layout

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**MARK JECKER**  
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

When the doctor's bill came, the wife of a deployed service member didn't know what any of the charges were for – and nobody could tell her, even though she was paying the bill.

It's the law.

The law is the 1996 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, called HIPAA. HIPAA's privacy rule is designed to safeguard patients' protected health information (PHI) while giving health care providers the access they need to furnish high-quality care.

The wife couldn't get the needed information because she did not have her deployed husband's written consent to share his medical information with her. It was a simple oversight, but it's an oversight that can cause problems.

The wife needs to file an Authorization to Disclose form with TriWest.

This form needs to be signed by her husband or be accompanied by her husband's power of attorney authorizing her to act on his behalf. The Authorization to

Disclose form is available under "Find a Form" at [www.triwest.com](http://www.triwest.com).

"Without a written consent, we cannot release the patient's medical information," said Brendan Alsup, Director of Internal Audit and Corp Compliance for TriWest Healthcare Alliance, the Department of Defense contractor administering the military's health care plan in 21 western states.

"Depending upon the circumstance, we may also need supporting documents, such as birth or death certificates, adoption or custody papers, or divorce agreements.

Alsup said anyone who has visited a health care provider's office since the HIPAA privacy rule took effect should have received a Notice of Privacy Practices, which informs patients of their right to access, review and obtain a copy of their PHI, request an accounting of any inadvertent or unauthorized disclosures of their PHI, and amend inaccurate or incomplete PHI.

For more information, beneficiaries can consult a copy of the MHS Notice of Privacy Practices, which is available at [www.tricare.osd.mil/hipaa](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/hipaa).

## This Month in History

*Selected October Dates of Marine Corps Historical Significance*

### 9 October 1917

The 8th Marines was activated at Quantico, Va.. Although the regiment would not see combat in Europe during World War I, the officers and enlisted men of the 8th Marines participated in operations against dissidents in Haiti for over five years during the 1920s. During World War II, the regiment was assigned to the 2nd Marine Division and participated in combat operations on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Tinian, and Okinawa, and earned three Presidential Unit Citations.

### 23 October 1983

At 6:22 a.m. an explosive-laden truck slammed into the BLT headquarters building in Beirut, Lebanon, where more than 300 men were billeted. The massive explosion collapsed the building in seconds, and took the lives of 241 Americans--including 220 Marines. This was the highest loss of life in a single day for Marines since D-Day on Iwo Jima in 1945.

### 28 October 1962

An 11,000-man 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade left Camp Pendleton by sea for the Caribbean during the Cuban Missile Crisis. One week earlier, the entire 189,000-man Marine Corps had been put on alert and elements of the 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions were sent to Guantanamo Bay to reinforce the defenders of the U.S. Naval Base. Other 2nd Division units and squadrons from five Marine Aircraft Groups were deployed at Key West, Fla, or in Caribbean waters during the Cuban crisis.

## Religious Services

The Chaplain's Office is located in Building 5632 and coordinates regularly-scheduled worship services. For the location and meeting schedules of religious activities, contact the Chaplain's Office at 577-1333.

### Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Protestant worship service

11 a.m. Roman Catholic Eucharist

### Wednesday:

7 p.m. Baptist service

### Monday-Friday:

11:30 a.m. Roman Catholic daily mass

### Jewish:

7 p.m. First Friday of the month MCRD

7:30 p.m. Last Friday at Edson Range Chapel

"I'll tell ya what I had for breakfast, Mr. 20 questions.. I had 2 Pfc's with a side of LCpl and washed it all down with a Sergeant!! NOW! If you ask me another question before my first cup of coffee, you'll be my lunch!"



WHY MARINES AVOID E9'S BEFORE 0900



# IRAQ

FROM PAGE 1

While in use with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 in the Al Anbar province of Iraq, the helicopter is usually focused on cargo and troop transportation. However, the occasional situation comes along for the massive machine to delve into the missions it was meant for.

"Heavy lift is the mission of this squadron," said Maj. Andrew P. Albano, CH-53E pilot, HMH-361, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward). "The Marine Corps has medium-lift and heavy-lift platforms that are distinguished by the amount of weight they can carry. We consider the CH-53E a heavy-lift platform."

Although a heavy lift refers to the helicopter carrying more than 10,000 pounds, it isn't classified as a normal lift for the Marines conducting the mission.

"It's not a routine external lift of water, ammunition or humvees," said Lance Cpl. Anthony D. Garner, crew chief, HMH-361. "The heavy

lift is going to take quite a bit of planning, as far as power and weight. We have to go out to do operational power checks to make sure the aircraft can handle the load, as well as make sure it is light enough to pick up the load.

"Another thing you will have to look at is your harnesses and straps, as well as your heavy lifting equipment," the 20-year-old native of Middleton, Idaho, added. "You have to make sure the equipment will handle the load. It can't be ripped or torn, as that has the potential

**In Iraq, the squadron must plan with a variety of units to conduct just one heavy lift outside of their base defenses.**

to cause a breakage."

In Iraq, the squadron must plan with a variety of units to conduct just one heavy lift outside of their base defenses.

"It allows us the capability to extract entire helicopters," concluded Albano, a Creighton University graduate. "It gives us some flexibility, as we can provide solutions to problems that wouldn't be possible any other way. It's a capstone mission for us."



CPL. JAMES B. HOKE

Marines with the Helicopter Support Team prepare to hook the immobilized UH-60 Blackhawk to the CH-53E Super Stallion hovering over them in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq, Sept. 27. The Blackhawk was disabled earlier in the week when it landed during a routine training mission. It was successfully recovered by Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361, Marine Aircraft Group 16 (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward).



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# SALVAGE

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM UPDATE

## Specialized automotive yard keep Marines rolling

Lance Cpls. Dustin R. Smith (left) and Steven A. Wilke look through a scrapped humvee to salvage parts from the engine at Al Asad, Iraq, Sept. 19. The humvee is located in the automotive salvage section of the Defense Reutilization and Marketing lot here. Service members come here to salvage parts from damaged and unusable vehicles. The Marines are automotive organizational mechanics with Combat Logistics Battalion 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward). Wilke is a native of Medford, Ore., and Smith is a native of Chicago.



**CPL. BRANDON L. ROACH** | 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing

AL ASAD, Iraq — During the hustle and bustle of operations aboard Al Asad Air Base, Marines can be found in an automotive graveyard, rummaging through old broken-down vehicles and salvaging the usable parts for use in their humvees, Medium Truck Vehicle Replacements and other types of vehicles here.

These scrapped vehicles are located at the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office lot. Unlike a common salvage yard in the United States, this organized lot is maintained by soldiers and sailors in order to make the process easier to retrieve needed items.

“Our job out here is to get the war fighter home,” said Army Maj. Chad

A. Weddell, DRMO chief. “All the scrap vehicles from the Al Anbar province of Iraq come to our location to be salvaged.”

Although there are several different things available for use at the DRMO lot, the motor vehicle mechanics who use the lot regularly agree that without the old vehicles stored here, it would be difficult for their units to perform their functions.

“Marines and soldiers are always on the road doing missions,” said Lance Cpl. Steven A. Wilke, automotive organizational mechanic, Maintenance Company, Combat Logistics Battalion

GO TO **SALVAGE**, PAGE 10

## MESOTHELIOMA

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# Fishing for a great time and good friends

Service members catch a little of both during recent deep sea fishing trip.

PHOTOS AND STORY BY LANCE CPL. GEORGE J. PAPASTRAT | MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

COAST OF ENCINADA, Mexico — More than 50 miles off the coast, service members from the Southern California area cast their lines and shared fish tales during a deep sea fishing trip Sept. 28-29.

The Outdoor Adventure Center at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar coordinated the trip and offered it to service members from the area military bases.

"The purpose of the trip was to get these guys out there and build camaraderie," said Toni White, recreation programmer, OAC, MCAS Miramar. "The crew of the fishing boat, the Constitution, wanted to do something nice for service members who have deployed to a combat zone."

"I thought the trip was good," said Cpl. Ronni Gaither, an infantryman from Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command Twenty Nine Palms, Calif. "It's interesting to learn how the different military occupational specialties in the Marine Corps operate while deployed."

On the ship were Marine veterans from various wars and operations, including retired Sgt. Maj. Pedrero Blas Jr., a veteran from Vietnam, Somalia, and Desert Storm. He shared many stories with the military fishermen.

"The Marine Corps is dif-

ferent now," Blas said. "When I was 19 years old, I found myself in Vietnam fighting a war that few can imagine."

From jungle warfare during the Vietnam War, to the new technologies in the Gulf, Blas had a taste of it all.

**On the ship there were Marine veterans from various wars and operations.**



Master Gunnery Sgt. Clifford Martinez, Supply Chief, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, takes a break from fishing and catches a breath of fresh air Sept. 29. Service members from the Southern California area took part in the second deep-sea fishing trip put on by the Outdoor Adventure Center at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

Blas, originally an infantry Marine, shared his stories with the fishermen, one of whom was a fellow Purple Heart recipient.

Gaither received his Purple Heart for injuries sustained when the vehicle he was riding in drove over an anti-tank mine during his first deployment to Iraq.

Most of the Marines aboard the ship have never been deep sea fishing, including Gaither, but he found similarities to his infantry job.

"Fishing is a lot like patrolling in Iraq," said Gaither, a native of Hancock, Md. "Sometimes you wait and do nothing for a while and then all the sudden every-



The first fish caught aboard the Constitution during an over-night fishing trip that was put on by the Outdoor Adventure Center at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar is unhooked and thrown into the live-well of the boat. More than 15 service members participated in the trip in the search for the catch of the day.

thing hits."

Pfc. Lee P. Leblanc, aviation supply clerk, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 39, MCAS Camp Pendleton, thought it was "pretty cool"

to speak with a retired sergeant major with such an illustrious combat history.

"It makes me think how proud I am for what I do," added Leblanc.

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## WHAT TO EXPECT DURING THE AIR SHOW

Gonzales Hall Dining Facility will be running will be running the standard weekend schedule 13-15 October.

The Main Gymnasium will be open:  
Friday 4:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
The Barn and Semper Fit Center will be closed Friday through Sunday.

Miramar Commissary will be closed Friday through Sunday.

Miramar Main Exchange and Main Exchange Annexes will be closed Friday through Sunday.

Miramar Marine Mart  
Friday 5 a.m. to 1 a.m.  
Saturday 5 a.m. to 1 a.m.  
Sunday 5 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Flight Line Exchange  
Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturday 6 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.  
Sunday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Branch Medical Clinic  
Family Practice Patients will be seen at the TOC Clairemont.  
Acute Care will be Friday, 13 Oct and closed Monday 16 Oct.





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# AIR SHOW SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Starts 9:30 a.m.

Ends about 4:30 p.m.

Radio-Controlled Aircraft  
Demonstration (pre-show)John Helton, "America's Smallest  
Aircraft Carrier"

Bret Willat, "Sailplane Magic"

Shockley's "ShockWave" Jet  
TruckDan Buchanan's Special Effects  
Hang Glider

Silver Wings Wingwalker

John Collver, AT-6 Texan "War  
Dog"

Sean Tucker "Oracle Challenger"

MV-22 "Osprey" Demo

Patriots Jet Team

Marine Air-Ground Task Force  
Assault Demo Departure

## Day Show Afternoon Schedule (Tentative)

Invocation / National Anthem /  
Flag Drop

Commanding Officer's Remarks

U.S. Army Golden Knights  
Parachute TeamMarine Air-Ground Task Force  
Assault Demo

Sean Tucker, "Oracle Challenger"

F-16 Fighting Falcon Tactical  
DemoHeritage Flight: F-16 Fighting  
Falcon & P-51 MustangBill Reesman, Russian MiG-17F  
"Red Bull" PerformanceF-117 Nighthawk Stealth Fighter  
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only)AV-8B Harrier Vertical Take-off  
and Landing DemoBlue Angels Navy Jet Demo Team  
with "Fat Albert"

## Twilight Show Schedule (Tentative)

Starts 5:30 p.m. Sunset 6:13 p.m.  
Ends about 9 p.m.

AV-8B Harrier Demo

Sean Tucker, "Oracle Challenger"

Shockley's "ShockWave" Jet  
Truck

Patriots Jet Team

U.S. Army Golden Knights  
Parachute TeamFat Albert Jet Assisted Take Off,  
Dramatic KC-130 Hercules DemoJohn Helton, "America's Smallest  
Aircraft Carrier"Bret Willat, "Sailplane Night  
Magic"

KC-130 Flare Demo

Steve Stavrakakis, Romanian IAR

Dan Buchanan's Special Effects  
Power GliderBill Reesman, Russian MiG-17F  
"MiG Meteor"Shockley's "ShockWave" Jet  
Truck

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## SALVAGE

FROM PAGE 5

1, 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward). "We have to do whatever we can do to keep them rolling all the time."

Having a high operational tempo keeps these mechanics on their feet, either ordering parts or searching through the approximately 350 vehicles in the lot.

"We get an average of 400 customers to the salvage lot per week," said Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Herbut Parada, storekeeper, DRMO. "Most of the stuff we have here has to be (de-militarized) before it can be sold as scrap metal, so we keep the vehicles until there is pretty

much nothing left of them."

De-milling is the process of going through the many types of military vehicles and removing all of the military additions on the vehicles.

With constant ground operations taking place in and out of the air base, the mechanics of all units here always have the option for parts by using the automotive salvage section of DRMO, and for them, speed and convince is key with keeping their operations rolling.

"This is so much faster than waiting for parts to be shipped to us," said Wilke. "We can cannibalize the trucks and not have to wait for a shipment of parts."

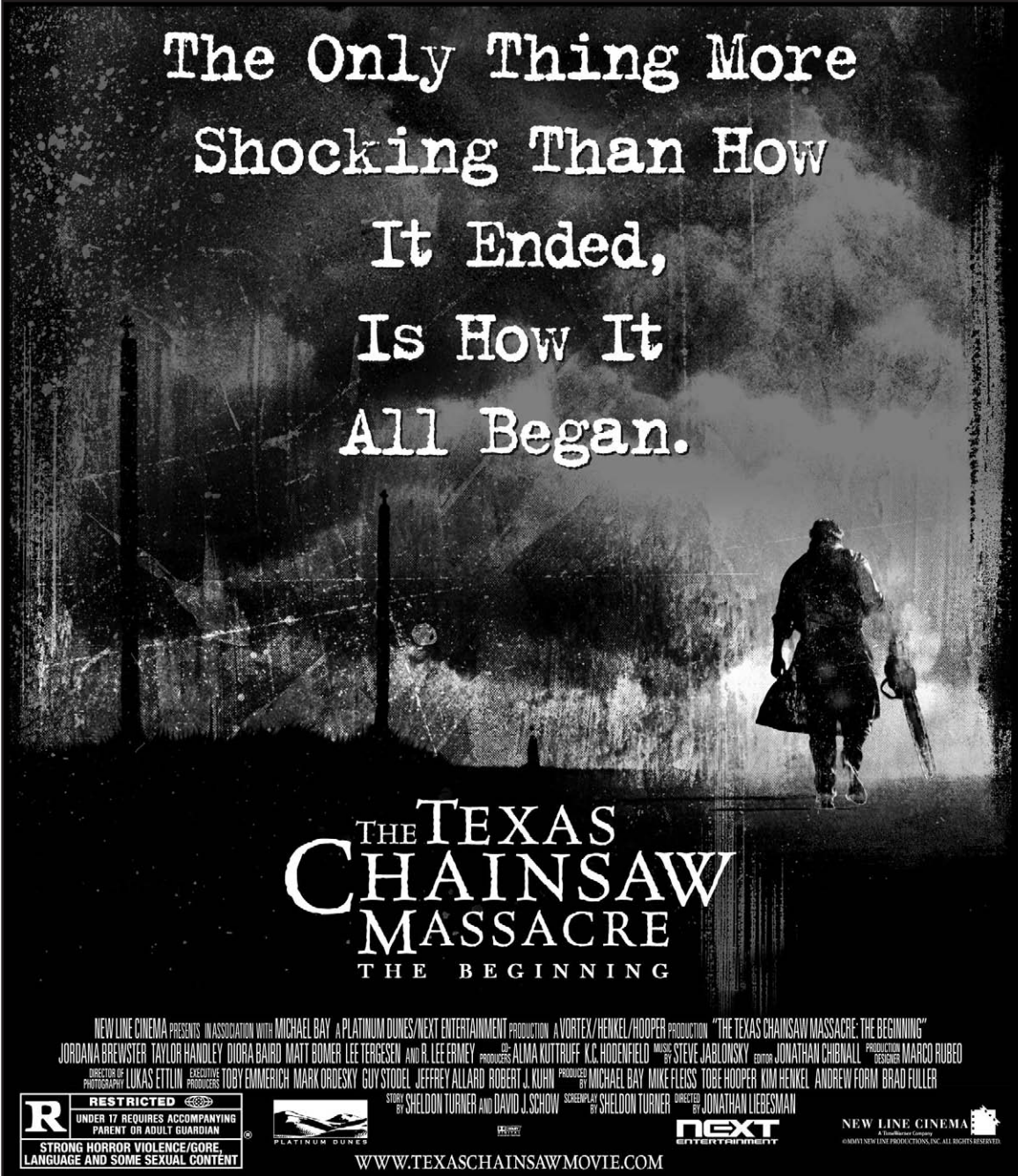


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DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY LUKAS EITLIN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TOBY EMMERICH MARK ORODESKY GUY STODEL JEFFREY ALLARD ROBERT J. KUHN PRODUCED BY MICHAEL BAY MIKE FLEISS TOBE HOOPER KIM HENKEL ANDREW FORM BRAD FULLER  
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# Trap shooting facility welcomes shooters

**CPL. MARTIN R. HARRIS**

MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

SAN DIEGO — Pull, bang — click click — pull, bang are the only audible sounds that penetrate through foam hearing protection as shotguns fire in a flurry at the San Diego Shotgun Sports range. San Diego Shotgun Sports is located just south of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar's flight line and offers service members and civilians the opportunity to enjoy shotgun sports in a safe and friendly atmosphere.

"This is my first time here, and I'm really surprised with how helpful and friendly everyone is," said Ricky Herrera, who brought his son, Jordan, to practice with a 20-gauge shotgun. "Safety is a big issue, but the staff is right there to help familiarize us with the gun."

The facility was constructed in 1977 and has 12 fields that can support approximately 150 shooters in many different types of scenarios and games like American Trap and Skeet,

Skeet, and 5-Stand Sporting Clays.

Trap shooting is literally "one shot, one kill." Shooters are given the opportunity to take down one clay pigeon thrown from machine at varying speeds and degrees. The shooter can't see the machine and don't know how the pigeon will fly until it appears in plain sight.

Skeet challenges shooters with 25 shots at clay pigeons, moving high and low at varying speeds from eight different positions.

According to the San Diego Shotgun Sports Association, 5-Stand Sporting Clays has become the fastest growing shotgun sport in the country and attracts shooters from beginner to the most discriminating expert. Miramar is fortunate to have two, 5-Stand fields, each set up for a different degree of difficulty. Five targets are thrown at each of the stations for a total of twenty-five targets. The targets are thrown in a mixture of singles and doubles.

Open tournaments, as well as scheduled practices, help the



CPL. MARTIN R. HARRIS / MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, MIRAMAR

Jordan Herrera sights in on a clay pigeon with a 20-gauge shotgun at San Diego Shotgun Sports facility, just south of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Sept. 30. Herrera, 14, shot the 20-gauge shotgun for the first time after his father Ricky decided shotgun sports might be a way to build Jordan's confidence and responsibility. The shotgun facility is open to civilians and offers discounts for members of the active duty military.

association to reach its goal of developing amateur athletes for national or international sports competitions.

"We definitely try to treat our active-duty (members) well," Kuhlman said. "We offer them the same prices as members."

"We've had lots of different commanding officers bring out their units to learn how to fire shotguns, or just have a good time together," Kuhlman explained. "We usually can make arrangements to fit everybody in."

For more information on the San Diego Shotgun Sports Association or facility please call: 858-278-3173 or visit their Web site, <http://www.sandiegoshotgunsports.com>.

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## Falcons crush Rough Riders 33-0 in Tuesday face-off

**LANCE CPL. TAYLOR POULIN**  
MCAS Miramar Combat Correspondent

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLTON, Calif. – The Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Falcons annihilated the School of Infantry Rough Riders 33-0, in a tackle football game held at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Oct. 3.

The Falcons came into the game leading the 2006 Camp Pendleton Tackle Football League in wins and wanting to stay that way.

Falcons head coach, Bennis Branch, was looking for his defense to come alive during the season, and that finally happened in the fourth game of the season, shutting out the Rough Riders.

First blood was drawn on a quarterback keeper ran by Falcons' quarterback Jaime Sales after the Falcon offense walked all over the Rough Riders. The

point-after-touchdown attempt was no good, making the score 6-0, Falcons.

On the pursuing drive the Rough Riders could not fix the kinks in the offense and were forced to punt.

Again, the Falcons smashed through the Rough Rider defense, using multiple running backs to keep their players fresh.

To cap off the drive, Falcons' tight end, Justin Wood, made a spectacular catch in the end zone. The two-point conversion attempt was good, giving the Falcons an even bigger lead, 14-0, with 4:57 left in the first quarter.

After a decent punt-return by Falcons' safety Mike Olsen, running back, Cordero Davis went to work. Cutting up gains of 8-10 yards, the quick movement tired the Rough Rider defense. Olsen stuck the knife in with a 25-yard run-in, making the score 20-0,

Falcons.

Later Davis returned a punt for 55 yards and ended the half with a bang. At halftime the Falcons led the Rough Riders, 27-0.

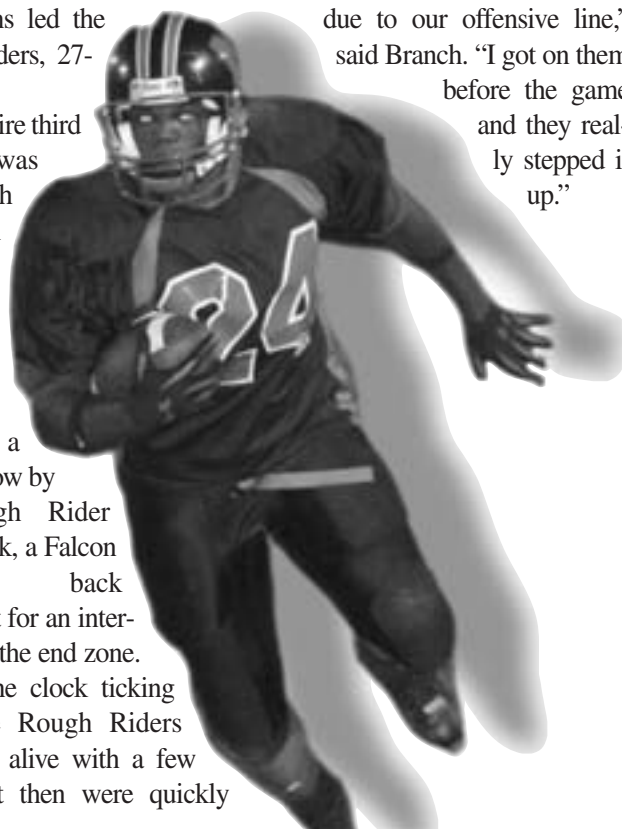
The entire third quarter was spent with the Rough riders in possession after a Falcons fumble.

On a frantic throw by the Rough Rider quarterback, a Falcon defensive back snatched it for an interception in the end zone.

With the clock ticking away, the Rough Riders kept hope alive with a few passes but then were quickly

shut down again by the defense and the time ran out for them.

"We were able to run the ball and our backs gained big yards due to our offensive line," said Branch. "I got on them before the game and they really stepped it up."



## GAMERS

FROM PAGE 1

collecting money, clothing, houses, and most importantly, new cars.

Atari has billed this game as a massive multiplayer online racing simulation and pretty much delivers on that promise from start to finish.

There are plenty of things to do offline, but the main thrust of "Unlimited" is the online component.

There's really no storyline to speak of; you'll either love this aspect of the gameplay or be left wondering just what is the point of the game.

But if you are into just getting online and finding street races to participate in, and occasionally playing offline and cruising around the island completing side missions, then you're sure to find "Test Drive Unlimited" to be a nice Hawaiian vacation from the urban streets most racing games provide.

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